

ER-7-2873

COPY

3 August 1955

Hon. Edmund F. Mansure  
Administrator  
General Services Administration  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mansure:

In Title IV of Public Law No. 161, 84th Congress, and the Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1956, which awaits the President's signature, the Congress has authorized the Director of Central Intelligence to provide for a headquarters installation for the Central Intelligence Agency and has appropriated \$5,500,000 to this Agency for the preparation of detail plans and specifications and for other purposes.

Our representatives have been working together on this project for several months and I appreciate the personal interest which you have shown in expediting it as much as possible. I am now in a position to select an architect which you and General Bragdon urged me so strongly to do when you called on me some weeks ago and which I discussed with you briefly today by telephone.

I reviewed the list of architectural firms to which the Public Buildings Service mailed questionnaires and my representatives have examined the responses of some 57 of these firms which have been returned to date. Of these, it appears that Harrison & Abramovitz is at this time in a particularly good position to undertake this work and I am personally very much aware of their outstanding reputation. I have personally known Mr. Wallace Harrison for many years and believe that he, as well as his partner, are particularly qualified to deal with certain of the specialized problems involved in a building for C. I. A. Subject to negotiation of a satisfactory contract, I should like to select this firm to perform the architectural and engineering services for this construction.

I trust that this selection will be agreeable to you as I desire to proceed immediately with the necessary preliminary negotiations.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

DD/S:laq  
Rewritten  
O/DCI-AWD/c  
Distribution:  
Orig. & 1 - Add  
1 - DCI file via Reading  
1 - ER  
1 - DD/S  
1 - D/Logistics  
1 - C&RE/Logistics  
1 - General Counsel